CARDSTORM!

Quickly brainstorm creative action ideas by flipping over 3 cards at a time.

MATERIALS
3 piles of cards: Tactics, Principles, Theories • Pen & paper

PLAY

1. **Pick** an issue you're facing — say, your town is threatened by a fracking pipeline & the CEO is coming to town.
2. **Flip** over one card from each pile.
3. **Brainstorm**. Generate action ideas. Consider how the cards might combine to make a great action.
4. **Record** the best ideas.

OPTIONS

- **Play in teams** (Remember when 3 teams are generating ideas, there are 3 times as many ideas!)
- **Keep one card constant**, say, "Tactic: Flash mob," while flipping over cards from the other piles
- **Use a timer.** Time restrictions will prevent getting stuck too deep in the practical details of a specific idea and, instead, help you focus on generating as many ideas as possible in the time allowed.
- **Include Stories &/or Methodologies**
- **Get more advanced.** Think this is too simple for your group? See *Design a Creative Action* for a challenge toward building effective actions.

TIPS FOR FACILITATORS

- Get creatively unstuck! This is a simple activity for exploring the possibilities of creative action. (And having fun doing it.)
- Remember, "yes, and..." is the attitude that makes brainstorming flow. Try not to shoot down or critique your teammate's ideas. Instead, build on them, or just keep adding more ideas to the pile. There's no wrong action here! This game is about generating as many ideas as you can that *might* be possible.
- **Encourage participants to learn more.** Each card includes a unique "pop-up code." Turn your smartphone camera on and hover over the card. See what happens?! Your smartphone automatically pops up a link to the full version of that card in the Beautiful Trouble online toolbox.
- **Don't forget to capture your best ideas.** For all of these activities, you may want to designate a notetaker who can write down — or quickly take pictures with their phone — any ideas your team generates during the game.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Have you played Cardstorm!? Tell us how it went (hello@beautifultrouble.org). Also, please share any great or zany campaigns & actions these cards help you cook up by writing to us or tagging us (#beautifultrouble).

GET MORE...

RESOURCES: Supercharge your actions with Beautiful Trouble's action planning resources!

TRAINING: Get live support from our troublemaker training team.

DECKS: Buy a deck of cards for a school classroom or grassroots organization.